

1926 National Conclave, N.H.K.

TENTATIVE PROGRAM

Sigma Tau Conclave

Manhattan, Kansas

September 30, October 1 and 2

SEPTEMBER 30

- 9-12 a. m. General Meeting
Chapter Roll Calls
Chapter Reports
Committee Assignments
- 1-4 p. m. Committee Meetings
- 4-6 p. m. Inspection of Campus
- 8 p. m. Smoker — Initiation

OCTOBER 1

- 9-12 a. m. Reports of Delegates.
- 12 a. m. Picture of Group
- 1-4 p. m. Reports of Committees
- 6 p. m. Banquet

OCTOBER 2

- 8-12 a. m. Unfinished Business
- 2 p. m. Foot Ball Game

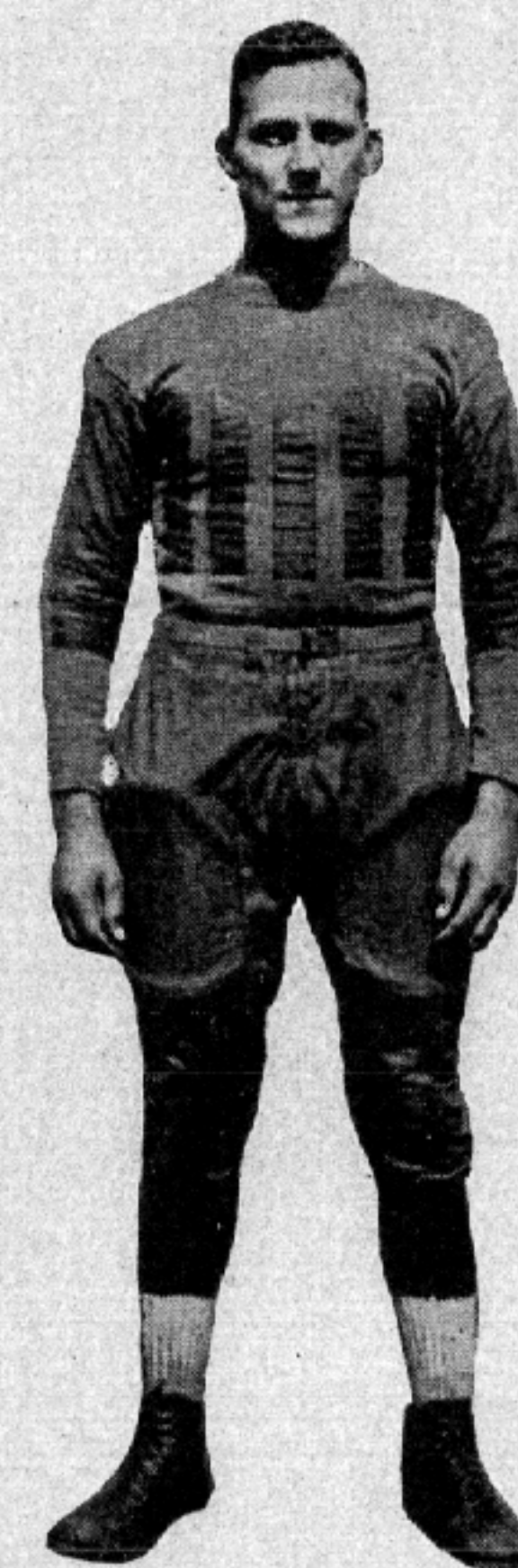
Pyramid of Sigma Tau

Devoted to the interests of the Sigma Tau Fraternity

Vol. XI

July, 1926

No. 4



S. J. TOMBAUGH,
E. E. '27
Sphinx of Epsilon
Chapter, Kansas State
College

Who's Who In Epsilon Chapter

(Editor's note: Although the following material is not wholly timely because some of the men have been removed from the active chapter by graduation, it is published in recognition of the services the officers and men in 1925-26 performed in securing for Epsilon Chapter the 1926 Conclave. Biographical data were furnished by the Chapter. "With malice toward none," then, read on!)

The activity of the members of Sigma Tau in fields outside of a strictly Engineering classification is well demonstrated by Brother S. J. Tombaugh of Epsilon Chapter. Tombaugh, who was recently elected as Captain of the 1926 Kansas Aggie "Wildcat" Football team, occupies the unique position of being the third consecutive captain of the football team enrolled in Electrical Engineering. Two of the three men thus honored have been members of Sigma

THE PYRAMID OF SIGMA TAU

Tau and active in other fields during their school career. He is also a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity.

Tombaugh played guard on the 1924 team and as a regular center on the 1925 team. Both years he has shown his ability as an outstanding athlete, being given very favorable comment by sport critics of the Missouri Valley. The fact that Tombaugh has also maintained the high average required by Sigma Tau during this time in a course as difficult as Electrical Engineering entitles him to the respect and admiration of all members of Sigma Tau Fraternity.

One of the most versatile members of Epsilon Chapter was our Sphinx, A. B. Nuss, Senior Civil, who not only headed Sigma Tau at Kansas State but was also the President of the American Society of Civil Engineers, and his social fraternity, Sigma Alpha Epsilon. To these honors must be added the treasurer-ship of the *Kansas State Engineer* and membership in Scabbard and Blade. Nuss, who was graduated this spring, expects to cast his lot in the Klondike and use his persuasive powers in highway work.

Bennie A. Rose, who held second power in Sigma Tau, has achieved two signal honors — one to be appointed Cadet Colonel, and the other, election to Phi Kappa Phi. Rose was Senior Mechanical and knows not what the future holds in store for him.

Perhaps the most popular man in the Engineering Division was Brother Dale Nichols, Senior Electrical. Nichols was vice-president of the Engineering Association and gained membership in Scabbard and Blade, and Scarab — Senior Men's Honorary. Nichols has always desired Sigma Tau as he is none other than the nephew of Brother H. H. Fenton, who is well known to the older heads of this fraternity. Nichols was graduated in June and expects to make his first million with Westinghouse.

Another man of whom Epsilon is proud is Brother R. L. Beach, Senior Mechanical and the Chapter Historian. Beach was recently elected to Phi Kappa Phi. His future is undetermined.

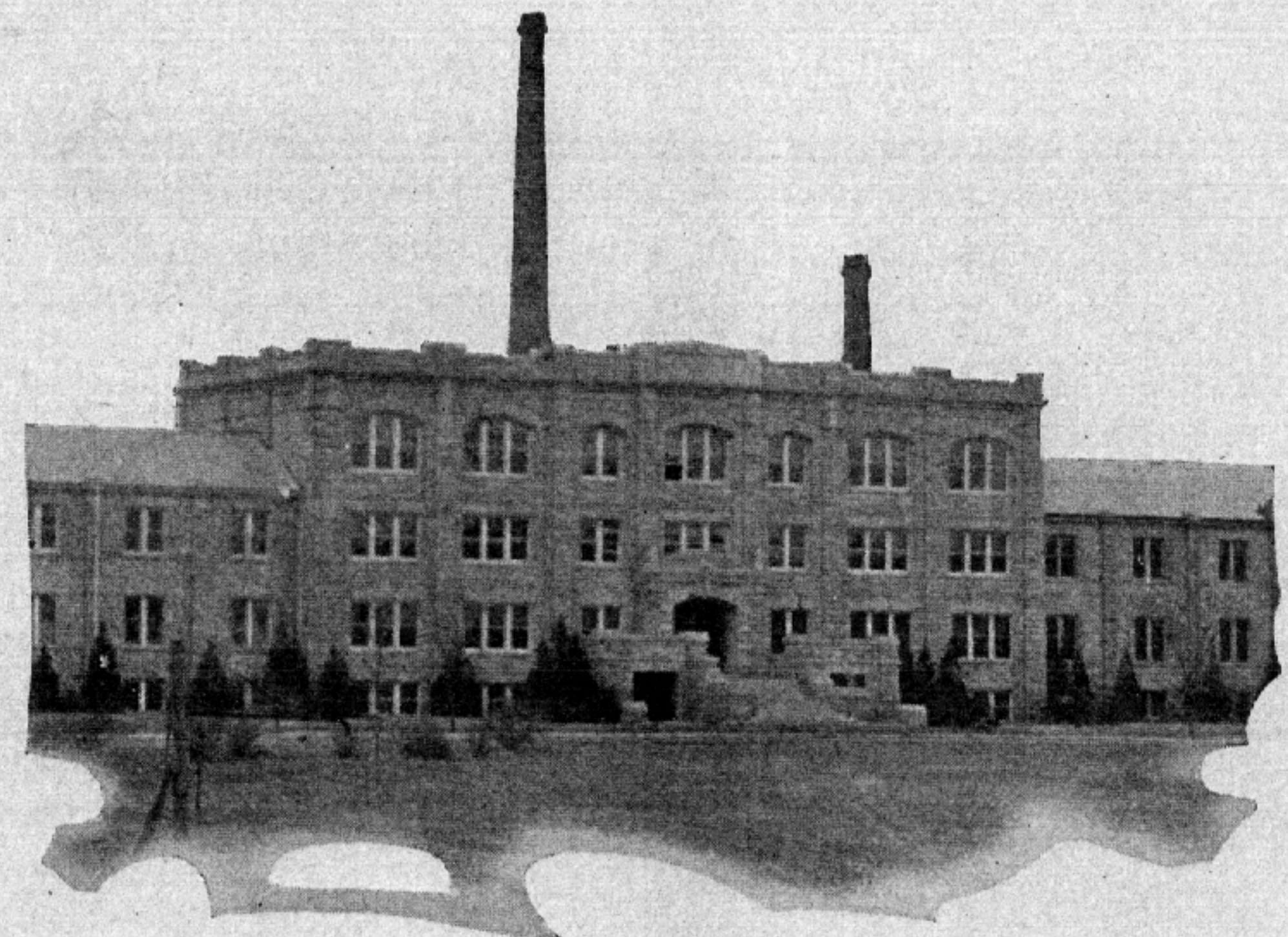
Harold M. Porter, Senior Electrical, was president of A. I. E. E., member of Scarab, and marshal of the Senior

THE PYRAMID OF SIGMA TAU

Class. Porter has spent one summer with Westinghouse and returned permanently in June. He acted as chapter Shylock and was secretary of the Engineering Association.

Roy L. Bainer, Agricultural Engineering, our secretary, occupies the exalted position of President of the Engineering Association. He "toots his own horn" in the College Band and has achieved membership in Phi Mu Alpha. Roy has a large but indefinite future.

Christian E. Rugh, Senior Electrical, acclaimed by the masses of Engineers as the biggest Spanish athlete and politician in the Division, has risen by hook or crook to the presidency of the Student Council. In contrast to this, Rugh is also marshal of A. I. E. E. and devotional leader of the Senior Class. His big grafts are acting as Shylock for Scabbard and Blade, Beta Theta Pi, and Varsity Activity Committee. Scarab and Pi Kappa Delta occupy some of his time not used in cutting classes. Rugh expects to be back next year to finish Mechanical Engineering and then accept the Democratic nomination for President. Publicity to the Division is got through his work as Associate Editor for the Engineers of the *Kansas State Collegian*.



ENGINEERING HALL, THE SEAT OF EPSILON CHAPTER



Clubroom Fosters Strong Spirit

By CHRISTIAN E. RUGH, E. E. '26, M. E. '27,
and A. B. NUSS, C. E. '26

In the competition for entertaining the 1926 Conclave of Sigma Tau, Epsilon Chapter of Kansas State Agricultural College at Manhattan was awarded the honor by the Grand Council. Most centrally located of all chapters Epsilon enjoys a natural geographical advantage. Of greater importance, however, was the fact that the quality of its membership — a vigorous and live lot — assures the success of the Conclave.

The strength of Epsilon Chapter is not confined to its active members, but is greatly helped by the very sincere co-operation of the Faculty of the Division of Engineering and its alumni, who are active in engineering and allied fields all over the United States and North and South America.

This interest in the affairs of Sigma Tau is not limited

to "fatherly" advice which is so often the only assistance of the Faculty and alumni of organizations of this nature, but in the past the former members have contributed no small amount of money and work for the betterment of the social interest in an Honorary Engineering Fraternity.

One notable example of this enthusiasm in the organization is the very comfortable and well-appointed room which is now the meeting place of Sigma Tau members of Kansas State College. This club room was provided by the Engineering Faculty and was furnished by the Sigma Tau Alumni.

The need of such a room for the exclusive use of Sigma Tau was first noticed when the Epsilon Chapter was founded on May 12, 1912. At that time and thereafter for nearly two years the members were required to meet in any class room that could be found unoccupied at the time a meeting was scheduled. The result of such haphazard operation of the chapter can easily be appreciated. The responsibility of becoming members of a National Honorary Engineering Fraternity meant little more than that of belonging to a certain Chemistry or Mathematics class.

When this situation was brought to the attention of Prof. A. A. Porter, then Dean of the Division at Kansas State and at present Dean of Engineering of Purdue University, he conceived the idea, along with other members of the faculty, of giving to Epsilon Chapter one of the class rooms in the Shops Building for its exclusive use and occupancy. This matter was brought before the Deans of other divisions which was the usual procedure in such affairs at that time and met with very stiff opposition on part of other Divisions of the College. After no small amount of time and much heated argument it was conceded that Sigma Tau was deserving of such a room in recognition of its services in the past which had not only benefited the Engineering Divisions but had also won the appreciation of the entire school.

The obtaining of the chapter club room by the members of the organization was the solution of one problem con-


fronting the chapter but at the same time presented a far larger proposition in which the members alone would be responsible for its successful completion. This problem was that of converting a very barren and unattractive room which had the very disagreeable past of being a class room into a comfortable club room.

The room as it now is furnished represents the work of only members of Sigma Tau. By their efforts was built the furniture now in use which is made of quarter-sawed oak finished in a golden oak stain and varnished. The pieces in the room consist of two large library tables of rugged yet neat construction, one large settee, a correspondence desk with suitable pigeon holes and shelves, with a folding desk cover. In this desk there are inlaid in oak the Greek letters "Sigma Tau" which represent much time and painstaking effort. A secretary's desk, a table lamp, several arm chairs and attractive lighting fixtures were made by the members.


The lower half of the walls were paneled and a suitable storage room provided for miscellaneous equipment, paddles, chairs and initiation paraphernalia.

The spirit of these former active members of the Chapter has been handed down from class to class in a most remarkable manner. This is reflected in the profound respect held by each member for the upkeep of the room and the personal feeling of responsibility for everything of interest to the fraternity.

Each year the outgoing members have felt that some small gift to the chapter is little enough that can be given as a token of good wishes and interest in incoming chapters by those who have gone before. Each member upon leaving feels a sincere regret that the days of such close friendships and intimate association are coming to a temporary close. The appreciation of this spirit causes each member to rever his fraternity somewhat more highly than would ever have been possible had not such a room and meeting place been provided.



EDITORIAL COMMENT



On to Manhattan!

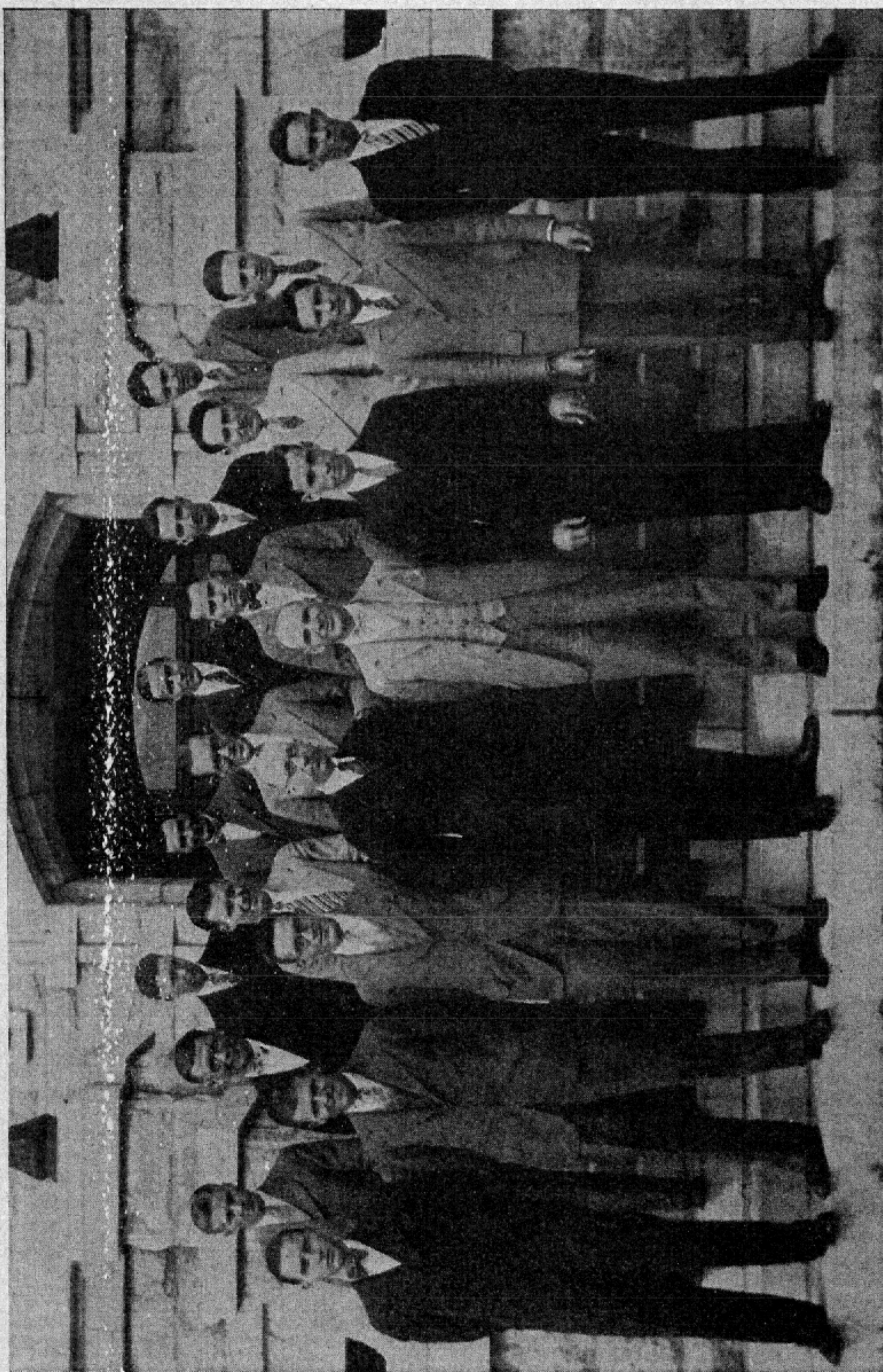
Extra! Extra! Read about it! All about the Sigma Tau Conclave! Turn right over to page 3, you conclave delegates, and read all about Who's Who in Epsilon Chapter. These are the fellows who have begun the work of making the 1926 Conclave of Sigma Tau the most resultful and merriest of all the fraternity's conventions. Then have a squint at the club room which is going to be put at your disposal when you pile off your train at Manhattan. After this, glance at the tentative program. Old man Webster is going to have to revamp his definition of "hospitality" after Kansas State "does its stuff" for the visiting delegates.

But what is a movement nowadays without its slogan? Draft evaders popularized the slogan in the war, "See America First." Hay growers have given a new meaning to "Excelsior!" And now THE PYRAMID modestly offers a motto for the 1926 Grand Conclave of Sigma Tau which should eclipse in popularity even "Four Out of Five Have It" — "On To Manhattan!"

Mass Versus Class Production

Of all the thousands of students who have been graduated within the past month from schools and colleges of engineering only a comparative few have merited election to Sigma Tau. In a very real sense these few represent the pick of their classes — the elite of engineering graduates.

Membership in the fraternity is awarded on the basis of the three requirements which experience has shown to be essential to the successful engineer — scholarship, practicality, and sociability. In scholarship each member must



GUESTS OF EPSILON CHAPTER AT THE 1926 CONCLAVE

Lykken	Ewing	Gray	Hobson	Van Zandt
Eielson	Lindhahl	Morton	Williams	Adams
Schaefer	Spitler	McCluer	Sjogren	Davidson
			Pennington	Griffen
			Robertson	

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Discussion of current problems facing both the local and the national chapters of Sigma Tau, proposal of a merger with Tau Beta Pi, and election of two councilors to fill vacancies caused by expiration of terms — these were the major points of a convention which agreeably mixed business with pleasure.

For entertainment the visiting delegates and officers were dined by the Chamber of Commerce of Manhattan Thursday evening, taken on a tour of the campus of Kansas State Agricultural College Thursday afternoon and banqueted Friday evening by Epsilon chapter, and were guests of the chapter at a football game Saturday afternoon.

The first session of the Conclave was called to order Thursday morning, September 30, by Grand President J. B. Davidson in the Library of the Engineering Building. Delegates were present from all the chapters except Gamma and Theta, whose delegates were unable to attend.

Of the grand officers President Davidson and Secretary-Treasurer Sjogren were present. Councilors H. W. Fish and L. W. W. Morrow, and Historian C. G. Roush sent their regrets at being unavoidably absent.

Following the address of President Davidson and the report of Secretary-Treasurer Sjogren Epsilon chapter officially welcomed the Conclave to Manhattan through its delegate, Ray Adams.

Reading and discussion of chapter reports carried over to the morning of October 1. In the exchange of ideas attending the reports of the various chapters stress was laid on the following points: selection of candidates, activities, competition with other organizations, relations to alumni, finances and publicity.

Committee reports, the text of which are found elsewhere in this issue, continued into the afternoon session. After luncheon the delegates and officers assembled on the steps of Engineering Building for the official picture of the Conclave.

A proposal to merge Sigma Tau with Tau Beta Pi was referred on motion to the Grand Council for action, with the proviso that final action should hinge on a vote of the Council and the chapters.

(Please turn to Page 19.)

3. That THE PYRAMID contain an occasional article of technical nature that would be of interest to all readers.

THE PUBLICATION COMMITTEE,

HERBERT V. PENNINGTON (Lambda), *Chairman*.

HUGH C. CARROLL (Rho).

BENJAMIN W. SCHAEFER (Mu).

Miscellaneous Committee

The Miscellaneous Committee reports that the matter of attendance is a local problem and offers the following suggestions:

1. That a fine be imposed upon absent members who are without satisfactory excuses.

2. That refreshments be served to attract the men.

3. That some social phase be incorporated in the regular business meeting.

THE MISCELLANEOUS COMMITTEE,

J. E. GRAY (Xi), *Chairman*.

W. M. GRIFFIN (Sigma).

G. M. WILLIAMS (Iota).

Resolutions Committee

Be it resolved by the Sigma Tau Fraternity in Conclave assembled:

1. That we express our appreciation for the royal hospitality and pleasant entertainment furnished by the Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Tau to the delegates at this Conclave.

2. That the Grand Officers be accorded the appreciation of the Conclave for their untiring efforts in devising and directing policies which have brought to Sigma Tau the most successful year.

3. That the Conclave expresses its appreciation for the efficient management and preparation on the part of Brothers Simon Tom- baugh and Ray Adams.

4. That each chapter put forth all possible efforts to keep up its membership records.

5. That the chapter letters be made more representative and be sent to the Grand Editor promptly.

6. That it is the policy of the fraternity that present develop- ment be internal rather than external.

7. That the national good of Sigma Tau shall always be placed above any local policy.

(8) That it be the spirit of their Conclave that the Consti- tution and By-Laws and all other rules and regulations be strictly adhered to by each chapter.

THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE,

S. E. EWING (Sigma), *Chairman*.

FRANK VAN ZANDT (Eta).

G. C. ROBERTSON (Upsilon).

EDITORIAL COMMENT

The Conclave Makes Sigma Tau History

To Epsilon Chapter is due the sincere appreciation of Sigma Tau for planning and bringing to completion the most successful Conclave of the national organization yet held.

Conventions do not spring full-fledged into being over night. They are the results of careful planning and a lot of hard work. The smoothness with which the Conclave at Manhattan moved along, the judicious injection of gay- ety into the routine matters of business, and the atmosphere of good-fellowship prove that Epsilon Chapter out-did itself as host. Delegates could not fail to bring away from the meeting a portion of the inspiration which characterized it.

Underlying the apparent activities of the Chapter are other factors, not so evident, but fully as important. The hearty cooperation with which the faculty of the Engineer- ing Division of Kansas State Agricultural College welcomed the visiting Sigma Taus speaks well for the internal rela- tions of the institution. The courteous hospitality of the civic bodies of Manhattan indicates that to the town, as well as to the gown, Sigma Tau has come to mean a certain definite achievement in engineering education.

Other chapters may well take for their goal the winning of such approbation in their institutions and their com- munities as Epsilon has won at Kansas State.

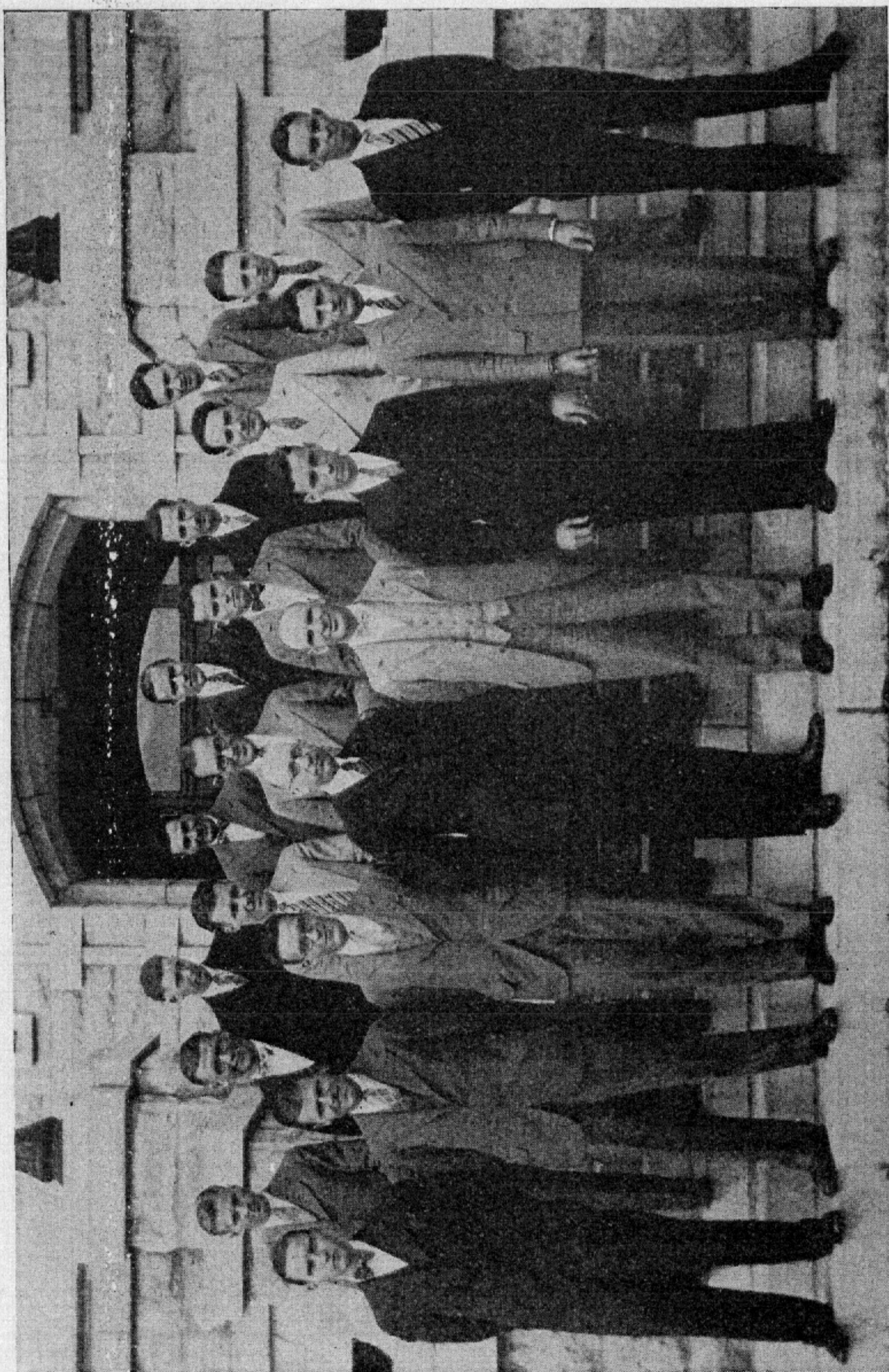
Epsilon is Host to 1926 Conclave

(Continued from Page 3.)

Final committee reports began the morning session Saturday.

Brothers E. D. Schive of Boston, Mass., and C. E. Thomas of Cor- vallis, Oregon, were unanimously elected Grand Councilors to re- place the retiring members Morrow and Fish. Because of a techni- cality violated unwittingly by the election of an honorary member as Grand Councillor, Mr. Thomas will not serve in that capacity.

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